

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the present application. With entry of this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 1-3, 5-7, 11 and 12. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Specification

The Examiner referred to the DM 2000 Instruction Manual discussed in the specification. Applicants submit herewith an Information Disclosure Statement with the entire Manual for the Examiner's consideration.

Applicants have amended a paragraph in the specification beginning at page 24, line 12 to correct two inaccuracies. Because the amendment conforms the specification with Fig. 10A, no new matter has been added.

Claims 6, 9 and 11

The Examiner rejected claims 6, 9 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Suyama et al. (US 2002/0156547 A1). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention as set forth in claim 6 is directed to a control method for a mixing system. The invention allows designation of one of two name assignment modes for assigning names to input channels for display. In the first name assignment mode, a channel is named in accordance with a string of characters (perhaps inputted by the user). In the second name assignment mode, the channel is named based on the port name allocated to that channel. In this manner, the present invention allows the selective assignment and display of either a channel name or the port name of the input port allocated to that channel.

As the Examiner has noted, Suyama discloses assigning and displaying a short name of input channels paragraph 0095 and Fig. 5 at 519. Suyama, however, fails to allow the user to

selectively assign and display either a channel name or a port name of the input port allocated to that channel.

The Examiner notes that Suyama discloses a display part 501 in Fig. 5 for displaying a short name assigned to a MIX bus as opposed to a channel. (See also paragraph 0060.) Fig. 5, however, clearly shows that the short name displayed at 501 (OH_L in Fig. 5) corresponds to a channel OH_L at 519. In other words, Suyama merely assigns the name of an input channel to the selected MIX bus. Assigning a short name to an input channel which is then used to name a MIX bus channel is very different than providing the user with the ability to selectively assign and display either a channel name or a port name of the input port allocated to that channel. In the former, a single name is assigned and displayed for two entities, while in the latter, a choice is provided for a single entity or channel.

Even if Suyama is somehow viewed as disclosing the ability to independently assign a name to a selected MIX bus channel, this is also very different than the present claimed invention. The ability to name an input channel and a MIX bus channel is not the same as providing a name assignment and display selection for a given input channel. Because Suyama fails to disclose providing a name assignment and display selection for a given input channel, it also fails to disclose that the choice is between a channel name or a port name for an input port allocated to that channel as recited. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 6 is not anticipated by Suyama.

Applicants note that they have amended claim 6 in a number of ways to better claim the invention. It is believed that claim 6, as originally drafted, recited providing a name assignment selection which is not disclosed at all in Suyama.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 9 and 11 (which has been similarly amended as claim 6) are not anticipated by Suyama for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 6.

Claims 1-5

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suyama in view of Kohyama (US 2003/0059066). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The present invention, as set forth in claim 1, relates to “scene recall” in the context of a mixing methods and apparatuses. Mixing can require the setting of a number of parameters, and the values of those parameters can change for each scene in a performance. To avoid having to set different parameter values during the performance, setting data for each scene is set during rehearsal. Then, during performance, the setting data for each scene can be recalled with a one-touch operation. However, not all the parameters need to be modified for each scene. Parameters can be excluded from recall, but excluding a different set of parameters for each scene during a performance is cumbersome.

The present invention, as set forth in claim 1, allows the user to recall only the setting data needed for a given scene by allowing the user to set “range data.” Specifically, the method of claim 1 comprises providing a current data storage area to store a current data set. A current data set includes a plurality of setting data and range data. The range data specifies the particular setting data to be recalled from among the plurality of setting data. When the scene is recalled, the method of claim 1 writes “the particular setting data specified by the corresponding range data in the designated scene data set from among the plurality of setting data contained in the designated scene data set” into the current data storage area.

Suyama discloses one touch recall of setting data corresponding to a given scene. (See, e.g., Paragraph 0065.) Suyama does not disclose setting “range data” that specifies particular setting data to be recalled from among a plurality of setting data.

The Examiner cites to Kohyama’s disclosure at paragraphs 0070 and 0071 to make up for the deficiencies of Suyama. Paragraphs 0070 and 0071 describe adjusting the dynamic range of a selected channel by adjusting parameters. That is, they describe adjusting parameters rather than defining which set of parameters to be recalled. There is simply no disclosure or suggestion in

Kohyama of setting "range data" that specifies particular data to be recalled from among a plurality of setting data. As a result, even if Kohyama is somehow used to modify Suyama (which the Applicants traverse), the claimed method would not be performed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable over Suyama and Kohyama.

Applicants note that they have amended claim 1 in a number of ways to better claim the invention. It is believed that claim 1, as originally drafted, recited the setting of range data not disclosed in either Suyama or Kohyama.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-4 and claim 5 (which has been similarly amended as claim 1) are patentable over Suyama and Kohyama for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1.

Claims 7, 8, 10 and 12

The Examiner rejected claims 7, 8, 10 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suyama in view of Kohyama. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 7 is directed to a control method for a mixing system. The method includes the step of determining whether or not a channel name assigned to an input channel includes a predetermined code. If it does, the method displays "the port name assigned to the input port allocated to the input channel." If it does not, the method displays "the channel name assigned to the input channel."

The Examiner, once again, cites Suyama's disclosure of providing short names to input channels and then using a channel short name for the mixing bus. As discussed above with respect to claim 6, there is no disclosure or suggestion that, for a given channel, Suyama allows either a channel name to be displayed or a port name for an input port allocated to that channel to be displayed.

Kohyama does not make up for this deficiency nor does it make up for the deficiency for which it was cited. Specifically, the Examiner concedes that Suyama does not disclose the use of a predetermined code in determining the displayed channel name and cites paragraphs 007, 009, 0011 and 0034 of Koyhama for disclosing such a code. These paragraphs relate to interlocking a display with the operations of an operator (paragraph 0007), interlocking editing parameters between channels (paragraphs 0009 and 0034) and interlocking editing between channels in different layers (paragraph 0011). There is nothing in these paragraphs that suggest the use of a predetermined code for determining the name of a channel.

It appears from the Examiner's comments at page 6 that Kohyama is cited to show that a channels can be coded in association with an operator. Even if this is accepted (which the Applicants traverse), it is unclear how such a coding can be used to determine the name of a given channel. The coding links two channels together, whereas the claimed invention uses a predetermined code to determine the name of a single channel.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 7 is patentable over Suyama and Kohyama.

Applicants note that they have amended claim 7 in a number of ways to better claim the invention. It is believed that claim 7, as originally drafted, recited the use of a predetermined code to determine whether the channel name assigned to a channel is displayed or a port name assigned to an input port allocated to that channel is displayed, which is not disclosed in either Suyama or Kohyama.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 8 and 10 and claim 12 (which has been similarly amended as claim 7) are patentable over Suyama and Kohyama for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 7.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

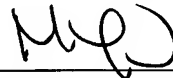
If, for any reason, the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 892-5630 to discuss any steps necessary to place the application in condition for allowance.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing Docket No. 393032043600.

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Respectfully submitted,

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